

Message Text

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62
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EA/LC:JDROSENTHAL:EBS

APPROVED BY EA - RHMILLER

EA/L - MKHUNTINGTON (DRAFT)

S/S-O M. TANNER

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O 200048Z JUN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 145081

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, LA

SUBJECT: MILITARY RICE FOR LAOS

REFS: A. VIENTIANE 4372

B. BANGKOK 11686

C. STATE 143350

D. BANGKOK 11478

BANGKOK FOR KRANKER;

1. RECOGNIZE ARGUMENTS NOTED PARA 2 REF A AND AGREE THAT CUTOFF RICE DELIVERIES SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN IN A WAY AS CONSISTENT AS POSSIBLE WITH MAINTENANCE OF MISSION AND SAFETY OF REMAINING PERSONNEL. AT SAME TIME, IN LIGHT OF CONGRESSIONAL FEELING HERE AND DECISION TO TERMINATE MAP AS OF JUNE 30, WE DO NOT BELIEVE WE CAN JUSTIFY COMMITTING EVEN REMAINING FY 75 FUNDS TO SUSTAIN PROGRAMS SUBSTANTIALLY BEYOND THAT DATE.

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2. BEFORE WE CAN DECIDE THIS MATTER, HOWEVER, URGENTLY

NEED YOUR ANSWERS TO FOLLOWING:

A) WHEN WILL PRESENT MAP RICE STOCKS AND FINAL DELIVERIES
UNDER CURRENT CONTRACT RUN OUT, AND WHEN WOULD DELIVERIES

OF ANY NEW PURCHASES BEGIN TO ARRIVE IN LAOS?

B) WHAT DO YOU ANTICIPATE WILL BE SPECIFIC POLITICAL
AND ECONOMIC EFFECT OF CUTOFF, INCLUDING EFFECT ON PGN
AND FAR ATTITUDES TOWARD MISSION AND USG IN GENERAL?

C) IF DECISION IS NOT TO CONTRACT FOR MORE RICE, WHEN
IN YOUR OPINION SHOULD WE INFORM LAO OF THIS DECISION?

D) IF DELIVERIES WERE TO BE CONTINUED FOR SOME MINIMAL
PERIOD BEYOND JUNE 30 IN ORDER TO SAFEGUARD U.S. PER-
SONNEL DURING AND IMMEDIATELY AFTER DRAWDOWN TO MINIMUM
LEVEL, WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE THIS PERIOD SHOULD BE?

3. FOR KRANKER: COULD CONTRACT BE NEGOTIATED BY JUNE 30
FOR LESS THAN AMOUNT NOTED REF D? KISSINGER

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NNN

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